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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Varela ORIGINAL DATE 1/28/08  
LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB 404  
SHORT TITLE Santa Fe Fiestas SB \_\_\_\_\_  
ANALYST Earnest

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09		
	\$50.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Not Received From  
NM Tourism Department

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 404 appropriates \$50 thousand from the general fund to the Tourism Department to plan, promote, and conduct the Santa Fe fiesta.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$50 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2009 shall revert to the general fund.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Santa Fe Fiesta traces its roots to a 1712 proclamation establishing the first Fiesta de Santa Fe. La Fiesta de Santa Fe is organized each year by the Santa Fe Fiesta Council. The Santa Fe Fiesta Council is a volunteer organization created by the original proclamation and including 100 members plus representatives of 20 civic organizations and businesses. Events include the Fiesta Queen and her Court, a reenactment of the entry of Don Diego de Vargas and his 17-member retinue, two parades, dancing, singing, arts and crafts, and religious processions. La Fiesta begins the Thursday after Labor Day, with the burning of Zozobra (Old Man Gloom), the most

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distinctively Anglo contribution to the more than 290-year-old celebration. Festivities continue throughout the weekend with a children's pet parade, a historical/hysterical parade, regional food and more.

September 2008 will mark the 296<sup>th</sup> consecutive Santa Fe Fiesta. The activities of the Fiesta are an important part of Santa Fe's attraction for tourists. Fiesta offers tourists, as well as New Mexicans from other parts of the state, a compelling reason to visit Northern New Mexico.

BE/bb